

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 1-3, 7, 16 and 17 have been canceled. Dependent claims 4-5 and 8, previously depending upon claim 1, have been amended to be presented in independent form. New claims 18-25 have been added, which incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 16 in combination with other claims, new claims 18-24 being in independent form.

In addition, non-elected claims 9-15 have also been canceled. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of these non-elected claims.

It is submitted that these amendments to the claims are helpful in distinguishing the subject claims over the cited prior art and do not raise new issues which would require further consideration and/or search. In addition, it is submitted that such amendments place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal. In view of the above, it is submitted that entry of the above amendments is in order and such is respectfully requested.

By a separate sheet attached hereto, the fees necessitated by the presentation of additional independent claims have been calculated and that amount is to be charged to the noted deposit account.

Initially, applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that claims 4, 5, 8, 16 and

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17 were only objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In this regard, the following should be noted:

- (a) Claims 4-5 and 8 have been amended to be in independent form;
- (b) Claim 16 has been canceled and new claims 18-24 presented in independent form are equivalent to claims 1-5 and 7-8 as referred to in claim 16;
- (c) Because of the cancellation of claim 16, claim 17 has been presented as claim 25 so as to depend from claims 18-24 as mentioned above;
- (d) Claim 18 (New) - a combination of claim 1 with claim 16;
- (e) Claim 19 (New) - a combination of claim 2 with claim 16;
- (f) Claim 20 (New) - a combination of claim 3 with claim 16;
- (g) Claim 21 (New) - a combination of claim 4 as now amended with claim 16;

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(h) Claim 22 (New) - a combination of claim 5 as now amended with claim 16;

(i) Claim 23 (New) -a combination of claim 7 with claim 16;

(j) Claim 24 (New) - a combination of claim 8 as now amended with claim 16;

(k) Claim 25 (New) - old claim 17 re-written.

Thus, all of these claims should be in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 7 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent to Su et al in view of the patent publication to Seo et al as was made in the prior Action with respect to claim 6, now included in claim 1. However, the patent to Bommarito et al was then further cited in combination with these two patents. Reconsideration of this rejection in view of the above claim amendments and the following comments is requested.

In view of the cancellation of claims 1-3 and 7 herein, it is submitted that this rejection is now moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and allowance of claims 4-5, 8 and 18-25 as amended over the cited patent publications are respectfully requested.

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In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, the applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Petition for Extension of Time